DISTRICT LEVEL AGROMET ADVISORY SERVICE
BULLETIN FOR KASHMIR (J&K)

(Period 14th to 18th March, 2026)

Issued jointly by

AGROMET FIELD UNIT-SRINAGAR (AMFU-Srinagar)
Division of Agrometeorology & India Meteorological Department (IMD)
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Srinagar
Weather forecast until 08:30 hrs of 18.03.2026

Parameters	14	15	16	17	18
Rainfall (mm)	0	0	15	15	10
Max. Temp. (deg. C)	20	22	18	18	18
Min. Temp. (deg. C)	5	5	8	9	9
Max. Relative humidity (%)	90	90	95	95	95
Min. Relative humidity (%)	70	70	80	80	80
Wind speed (kmph)	1	1	1	1	1
Wind direction (deg.)	340	35	60	55	65
Total cloud cover (octa)	2	4	8	8	8

General Advisory: Farmers are advised to utilize the expected precipitation for improving soil moisture and ensure proper drainage in fields and orchards to avoid temporary water stagnation after rainfall.

ADVISORY FOR AGRICULTURAL CROPS

Wheat, Mustard and Pea	Care/Management	• Monitor crop and control weeds through intercultural operations when weather improves. • Apply urea in wheat/oilseeds @ 2.5 kg/Kanal when sufficient moisture available in soil.
Berseem/Oats/Lucern (Fodder)	Care/Management	• Removal of fresh weeds should be done, if emerging in the field when weather improves.
Saffron	Care/Maintenance	• Give top priority to rodent control by using recommended baiting and field sanitation practices to prevent corm damage. • Hand weeding may be carried out wherever necessary to keep the fields clean and reduce competition with emerging saffron foliage. • Follow the IIKST, Dussu Pampore manual for stigma separation, drying, grading, and storage, or farmers may avail the processing facilities available at the center.
Mushroom Cultivation	Button Mushroom	• Maintain Hygienic conditions to prevent spread of competitor moulds. • Mushroom butts should not be left on bags/trays. • Diseased mushroom fruits should be harvested and disposed/dipped in formalin solution. • Use disinfected tools for harvesting. • Mushroom fruiting rooms should be properly saved from

		low prevailing temperatures. • Apple pruned wood should be processed for production of Shiitake and Enokeii Mushrooms. • Enokeii mushroom crop should be initiated.
	King Oyster	• Collection of pruned wood. • Preparation of Saw dust from pruned apple wood. • Preparation for next crop of King Oyster using apple wood based substrate. • Process the substrate in hygienic way. • Keep fruiting rooms strictly between 16-18ºC.
Agro forestry/forestry	Care/Maintenance	• Proper drainage should be maintained in forest nurseries to avoid water stagnation. • Channels should be made to make way out for snowmelt. • Semi uprooted and weak trees which are a potential hazard should be felled to avoid any accident. • Lopping of trees may be required to avoid snow damage and uprooting during winter months. • Seedlings raised under polyhouse conditions may be gradually transferred to open air conditions depending upon the improvement in weather conditions. • Pre-treated tree seeds can be sown in polybags. • Polybag mixture to be prepared by thoroughly mixing Soil, Sand and FYM in the ratio of 1:2:1. • Cuttings of Poplar and Willow can be directly planted for rooting.

ADVISORY FOR HORTICULTURAL CROPS

Apple	Care/Maintenance	• Apply thick organic mulch e.g., paddy straw, grass clippings (4-6 inches) for retaining moisture. • Avoid using inorganic mulches (polythene sheets etc.) as it will lead to increased soil temperature. • Delay application of fertilizers in areas where irrigation is not available till conditions improve (when moisture is available). • Avoid hoeing of the whole tree basins & tractorization of the orchards. Pest Advisory: • Apply HMO @ 2 liter/100 liter of water as recommended in apple crop management guide (2026) used by SKUAST-K. • Rake soil to expose pupae/grubs present in soil to sunlight. • Install pheromone traps @8-10traps/ha for monitoring of apple leaf blotch and fruit borer.
Vegetables	Care/Maintenance of fields	• Transplanting of knolkhol, kale, cauliflower, cabbage and broccoli may be continued under protected conditions and resumed in open field only when the weather allows. • Seed sowing of tomato, brinjal, chilli, capsicum, etc may be continued under protected conditions. • Seed sowing in polypacks for raising seedlings of cucurbits may be continued under polyhouses. • Resume field operations when weather is dry and soil becomes workable.
Floriculture	Sowing/Planting/ Transplanting/Management	• Ensure availability of moisture in Tulip field to avoid moisture stress so regular irrigation should be given at weekly interval. Keep soil surface covered with organic mulches (straw, wood chips, or dry leaves) to preserve moisture. • Install temporary 50% shade nets to protect crop from excessive heat stress.

		• Keep on hoeing between and around growing plants • Regular close mowing of lawns. • This is the ideal time for planting bare -rooted rose plants. • Start preparation of land for sowing seeds of herbaceous perennials

ADVISORY FOR LIVESTOCK AND ALLIED SECTORS

Cattle	Cow	• For prevention of mastitis keep proper and clean bedding material and ensure the cleanliness of udder and the animal in general in addition the hygiene of the milker should also be considered. • Feed extra mineral supplements and concentrates to avoid the occurrence of metabolic/production/deficiency diseases in the dairy animals in the current season due of shortage of green grass and legumes. • The outdoor exercise and grazing time should be made in incremental phases for the proper adaptation and adjustment of animals. • Precautionary measures should be taken against Foot and Mouth Disease. • Keep the animals in suitable sheds but due care should be given with respect to the suitable ventilation of sheds to prevent them from respiratory complications. • Adopt suitable measures for preventing the newborn calves against neonatal hypothermia by providing suitable, comfortable and warm conditions in the calving sheds and by feeding them proper level of colostrum at the rate of 10 percent of their body weight. • For prevention of urolithiasis especially in bulls, the animals should be provided adequate drinking water, good source of Vitamin A and restricted amount of wheat bran and paddy straw. • Avoid slippery surfaces in the paddocks of animals to prevent animals from getting slipped in order to avoid musculoskeltal injuries and fractures. • Regular change in the bedding material should be made to avoid dampness and to keep the animal neat and clean. • Provide special care, attention and ration to the weak, diseased and debilitated animals. • Dry off the advanced pregnant cows at least six weeks before parturition. • Deworming especially against Fasciolosis can be carried out.
	Sheep and goat	• Precautionary measures should be taken against foot rot and contagious ecthyma (Orf). • Suitable and proper energy rich diets like molasses should be fed to advanced pregnant animals for preventing pregnancy toxemia in them. • Enterotoxaemia vaccine should be administered to pregnant ewes one month before parturition. • The newborn lambs should be fed proper colostrum and their navel cords should be ligated and properly disinfected. • The outdoor exercise and grazing time should be made in incremental phases for the proper adaptation and adjustment of animals. • Keep the animals in suitable sheds but due care should be given with respect to the suitable ventilation of sheds and to prevent them from respiratory complications. • Extra concentrate feeding should be done for increasing the

		weight gain in animals and to ensure safe and successful pregnancy for those ewes which have not parturated yet. • For prevention of urolithiasis especially in rams, the animals should be provided adequate drinking water, good source of Vitamin A diet and restricted amount of wheat bran and paddy straw. • Separate the pregnant stock from non-pregnant ones and provide extra care, ration and mild exercise for the pregnant ewes for safe and successful lambing. • Deworming especially against Fasciolosis can be carried out.
Poultry	For broiler farms	• Due to significantly low ambient temperatures, ensure proper brooding and maintain recommended temperatures (95°F for first week, reducing 5°F per week). • Prevent cold stress by checking for huddling behaviour; adjust curtains and heating accordingly. • Ensure minimum ventilation even during cold weather to prevent ammonia build up and respiratory issues. • Provide clean, lukewarm drinking water to prevent dehydration and maintain body temperature. • Maintaining dry litter is critical. Add fresh litter at wet areas to prevent caking and ammonia formation. • Strictly follow vaccination schedule and maintain biosecurity, including footbaths and restricted entry to sheds.
	For backyard poultry	• Ensure birds have warm, draft-proof night shelters with adequate insulation. • Increase bedding material thickness (8–10 cm) and replace wet litter regularly to prevent frostbite and disease. • Use a 60–100 watt electric bulb or brooder lamp for warmth, especially for chicks and growers. • Provide lukewarm drinking water and refill frequently to prevent freezing. • Concentrate feed must be provided @ 90g per bird per day. • Ensure birds have access to sunlight during the day to improve thermoregulation and Vitamin D synthesis. • Vaccination against Ranikhet disease and periodic deworming must be ensured.
Apiculture	Care/maintenance	• Removal of winter packing when maximum temperature reaches above 20 degrees Celsius. • Examination of colonies on sunny days for food stores and general condition of colony. • Equalizing strength of colonies by giving brood frames and bee frames to needy colonies from strong colonies. • Unite weak colonies with strong colonies by using newspaper method. • Apply raised combs to the colonies. • Also apply stimulatory Sugar feeding to colonies.
Sericulture	Care/maintenance	• Disinfection of rearing appliances (Stands, Trays, Mountages, Nets etc.) should be started. • Silkworm rearing will start from 1st May; farmers are as such requested to start constructing Low Cost Rearing huts so that they will be ready well in time. • Identification and preparation of Chawki rearing centres should also be done on priority. • Silkworm seed should be released for incubation 10 days prior to brushing and proper environmental conditions should be ensured in Incubation room for maximum hatchability. • Clipping of frost damaged mulberry branches.

		• Application of fertilizer (NPK @ 300:120:120 under irrigated conditions and 100:50:50 under rain-fed conditions. • Weeding of mulberry farms.
Fisheries	Care/Maintenance	• Install aeration systems to maintain dissolved oxygen above 6 mg/L, particularly during dry spells and high temperatures. • Keep water level at least 1.5 to 2 meters (5–6 ft). • Cut feeding rate to 1–1.5% body weight/day during low-oxygen periods. • Switch to high-protein, low-FCR floating pellets with probiotics and vitamin-C (stress relief).

For LSDV queries contact Telemedicine portal on SKUAST K website: skuastkashmir.ac.in

(Nodal Officer)